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# BUSM News & Notes: June 15, 1979

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*Boston University*

# News & Notes



## Boston University School of Medicine

Issue #22  
June 15, 1979

### GOOD FEELING REIGNS AS 145 RECEIVE M.D.'s

Comfortable temperatures, good acoustics, a brisk, well-paced program, and a general air of good feeling marked the School's 105th commencement ceremonies at the Case Center May 20. Dean John I. Sandson presented the M.D. degree to 145 new physicians, a record high number of graduates.

Alasdair MacIntyre, Ph.D., a University Professor of philosophy and political science and chairman of the Philosophy Department at Boston University, told the 102 men and 43 women in the graduating class that there are two ways to be a bad physician: one is by breaking the rules; the other is by keeping them and supposing you have done everything morally required of you. It is not enough, MacIntyre said, for physicians to avoid breaking the "negative, prohibiting moral rules" governing medical practice.

Three students were graduated magna cum laude: they were Ellen Black, Lynn Goldstein, and Robert Jackler. Twelve students graduated cum laude. Michael Rafferty was the student speaker. A total of 540 students, parents, and guests jammed the Hiebert Lounge and Solomon Carter Fuller Center dining room for a buffet-style commencement breakfast Sunday morning.

Graduate Sheila Trugman received her M.D. degree along with both her brother, Joel Trugman, and her husband, Richard Rudnick. Another graduate, William LoVerme, was the fourth member of his family and a member of the third generation of LoVermes to graduate from BUSM.

### 36 RECEIVE M.P.H. DEGREE IN SEPARATE COMMENCEMENT

The 36 members of the first full graduating class of the School's Public Health Program were awarded the Master of Public Health (M.P.H.) degree at the program's first separate commencement exercises Sunday, May 20, in Keefer Auditorium. Three members of the class graduated magna cum laude, and five graduated cum laude. Twenty-seven women and nine men received the M.P.H. degree from Norman A. Scotch, Ph.D., director of the Public Health Program, and Douglas Decker, Ph.D., associate director.

Commencement speaker Robert H. Ebert, M.D., Ph.D., president of the Milbank Memorial Fund, predicted that government will develop a more formal system of evaluating health care by the year 2000 and that physicians' effectiveness will be measured in a "cascade of evaluations" at different levels, beginning at the regional level and ending with the physician himself. Ebert is a former dean of Harvard Medical School and founder and chairman of the Harvard Community Health Plan.

### COMMONWEALTH FUND RENEWS MMEDIC GRANT

The Commonwealth Fund had informed the School that it will renew its support for the Modular Medical Integrated Curriculum (MMEDIC) program with awards of \$900,000 over the next two years and the possibility of additional funding of \$700,000 for an additional two years. The original grant from the Commonwealth Fund was for \$1 million over two years. Representatives of the Fund site-visited the MMEDIC Program in March.



TUITION FOR 1979-80  
IS SET AT \$7,500

A tuition increase of \$1,100, necessary "to meet projected costs," was announced to students in a letter from Dean Sandson early last month. The increase, which brings the tuition for 1979-80 to \$7,500, includes \$275 to replace capitation funds lost when Congress voted in March to cut capitation for next year by 20 percent. In his letter, Sandson urged students needing additional financial aid or desiring National Health Service Corps scholarships to see Charles Terrell, director of financial aid, as soon as possible.

FREED TO BE HONORED  
BY UNIVERSITY ALUMNI

Murray Freed, M.D., a professor and chairman of the Department of Rehabilitation Medicine, has been chosen to receive the Boston University Alumni Association Special Distinction award for outstanding service to the medical profession. Freed is one of four Boston University alumni who will be honored by the Association at ceremonies to be held in September.

SWARTZ, CARTER HONORED  
AS DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

Two distinguished alumnus awards were presented at the annual meeting and banquet of the BUSM Alumni Association at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel May 12. Jacob Swartz, M.D., '46, a professor of psychiatry and associate dean for admissions, and Sidney Carter, M.D., '38, chief of the Department of Neurology at Blythedale Children's Hospital in Valhalla, N.Y., and a professor emeritus at Columbia University's College of Physicians and Surgeons, received the awards from Murray Freed, M.D., '52. Freed is chairman of the Alumni Awards Committee.

The 25th and 10th year reunion classes also presented gifts to the School. The class of 1954 announced it has so far raised \$31,000 in honor of James M. Faulkner, M.D., BUSM dean from 1947 to 1955. The money is earmarked to establish an annual named lecture-ship and three cash student prizes in memory of three classmates. The class of 1969 has raised more than \$10,000 for a student loan fund.

MRS. COOPERBAND ACCEPTS PLAQUE  
AT SYMPOSIUM HONORING HUSBAND

Dean Sandson opened the first annual Sidney R. Cooperband Cancer Symposium June 2 by presenting Mrs. Sidney Cooperband, widow of the late director of the Cancer Research Center, with a plaque honoring Cooperband and his work. Sandson's reading of the plaque, which took the form of an engraved letter to Mrs. Cooperband from the Dean and the staff of the Center, began the symposium, which featured poster presentations and 47 ten-minute lectures on cancer-related topics. Emil Frei III, M.D., director of the Sidney Farber Cancer Institute, delivered the keynote address, on curative cancer chemotherapy. The symposium was held in rooms L-110, L-112 and Bakst Auditorium.

BALLOTS DISTRIBUTED FOR  
FACULTY COUNCIL ELECTION

Ballots for the election of five representatives and one alternate to represent BUSM on the Boston University Faculty Council (formerly the Faculty Senate Council) were mailed by the Dean's office to the approximately 1,400 members of the School's voting faculty May 25. The new constitution of the Faculty Assembly (formerly the Faculty Senate), recently ratified by the faculty, calls for representatives to be elected by each School or College in proportion to the size of its faculty. BUSM and the College of Liberal Arts, with five each, have the most representatives.

The BUSM ballot lists a slate of 10 eligible faculty members--five preclinical and five clinical--nominated by an ad hoc committee. Faculty members were asked to vote for three persons from each group, preclinical and clinical, and to return their ballots to the Dean's Office, L-103, by June 1. The Faculty Council, which will meet monthly, will hold its first meeting this month.



CHINESE PSYCHIATRISTS  
EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH  
BUSM FACULTY

Tours of the School's Neuropsychology Laboratory, a demonstration of biofeedback, and a series of discussions with psychiatrists and psychologists at BUSM, the Bedford VA hospital, and the Fuller Mental Health Center were among highlights of the visit to BUSM last month by two distinguished psychiatrists from the People's Republic of China.

Professor Hsia Chen-Yi, president of the Neuropsychiatric Association of China, and Professor Hou Din-Shun exchanged methods and ideas with their American peers during a week-long tour of psychiatric facilities in the Boston area. Sanford I. Cohen, M.D., chairman of the Division of Psychiatry, and Albert Gaw, M.D., an assistant professor of psychiatry, coordinated the Boston visit and acted as official hosts to the visitors, who charmed BUSM faculty and staff during their stay.

UNIQUE MEETING EXPLORES  
LANGUAGE IN THE ELDERLY

Leading researchers and clinicians in a variety of disciplines gathered at the Colonnade Hotel in Boston May 5 and 6 to examine language and communication in the elderly in the first such multidisciplinary health-related conference on the subject ever held. The conference explored a broad range of topics, from the anatomy underlying age-related changes in communication and neurobehavior to the latest in special rehabilitation techniques for the elderly. The weekend event was co-sponsored by BUSM, the Boston University Gerontology Center, the National Institutes on Aging and the American Geriatrics Society. Loraine K. Obler, Ph.D., a research psycholinguist, and Martin Albert, M.D., a neurologist at University Hospital, were course leaders.

SANDSON URGES FOUNDING  
OF GERONTOLOGY CENTERS

Dean Sandson testified in Washington last month in support of legislation that would establish 20 major demonstration centers in gerontology in affiliation with medical schools across the country. Testifying before the subcommittee on medical facilities and benefits of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Sandson urged adoption of a bill (H.R. 2751) that would establish the demonstration centers at eight existing Geriatric Research, Education and Clinical Centers (GRECC), including the one at the Rogers Memorial Veterans Administration Medical Center in Bedford, and at 12 additional VA hospitals.

PARSONS DINNER RAISES  
\$12,000 FOR SCHOLARSHIPS

More than \$12,000 in pledges and gifts was raised at a recent dinner honoring Langdon Parsons, M.D., and benefiting the Langdon Parsons Scholarship Fund. Parsons was a professor of obstetrics and gynecology at BUSM from 1949 to 1962, and was chief of ob/gyn at Massachusetts Memorial Hospitals (now University Hospital) from 1954 to 1962. Approximately 40 of Parsons's friends and associates, as well as residents who trained under him, attended the dinner at the Harvard Club which featured an auction of many of the textbooks written by Parsons--new editions as well as out-of-print texts.

PRESTIGIOUS KOBER MEDAL  
GOES TO INGELFINGER

Franz J. Ingelfinger, M.D., BUSM professor emeritus of medicine and Distinguished Physician at the Rogers Memorial Veterans Administration Medical Center at Bedford, recently received the annual Kober Medal, the highest award of the Association of American Physicians. Ingelfinger also gave the Ramon Guiteras, M.D., Lecture at the American Urological Association convention in New York last month.

DAWBER RECEIVES MPHA'S  
LEMUEL SHATTUCK AWARD

Thomas Royle Dawber, M.D., M.P.H., a professor of medicine, received the Lemuel A. Shattuck Award of the Massachusetts Public Health Association, Inc., at the organization's annual spring meeting in April. The annual award is given to the person who "has made or is making a recognizable contribution to the field of public health."



Dawber, a member of the School's faculty for 13 years, is the retired founding director of the Boston University-Framingham Heart Study. He spent 27 years with the Framingham Study, 18 of them as the program's chief administrator.

'WHAT'S YOUR RISK?'  
HONORED BY HEART ASSN.

The Greater Boston chapter of the American Heart Association presented an award for "the outstanding contribution to public education" to a publication about cardiovascular risk that was prepared by the Office of Informational Services with the assistance of Aram Chobanian, M.D., director of the Cardiovascular Institute, and Patrick O'Reilly, M.P.H., CI administrator. What's Your Risk? A Layman's Guide to Cardiovascular Disease was distributed to approximately 125,000 Boston University alumni as a special winter edition of Bostonia, the University's alumni magazine, last November. Lorraine Loviglio, writer of the guide, accepted an engraved plaque on behalf of the BU Alumni Office, the Cardiovascular Institute, and the Office of Informational Services at the Greater Boston AHA's chapter's annual meeting at City Hall gallery May 24.

CANCER RESEARCH DEVICE  
PRESENTED BY AID GROUP

Aid for Cancer Research, an organization of 27 women from the Greater Boston area which raises funds to advance cancer research, recently donated \$9,600 to the School toward the purchase of a gamma scintillation counter. The machine, which detects gamma ray emission and the killing of tumor cells by lymphocytes, was presented to the School by Mrs. Irving Krute, president of ACR, and ACR members Mrs. June Weinberg and Mrs. Phyllis Frank. Michael Bennett, M.D., a professor of pathology and microbiology, accepted the equipment on behalf of the School. Vinay Kumar, M.D., an associate professor of pathology and microbiology, also attended the presentation ceremony.

GAVRAS, SONENSHEIN  
AMONG AHA AWARDEES

Harry Gavras, M.D., an associate professor of medicine, and Gail Sonenshein, Ph.D., an assistant professor of biochemistry, were recently chosen by the American Heart Association to receive career development support for their continuing research. The grants are among \$21.6 million in awards given by the AHA to cardiovascular researchers nationwide for fiscal year 1979-80. Gavras is investigating the relationship of renin and sodium to hypertension, and Sonenshein is studying how cells regulate antibody synthesis.

GALA BENEFIT RAISES  
\$30,000 FOR HOSPITAL

An estimated \$30,000 was raised for University Hospital at the second UH gala benefit evening, held May 11 at Anthony's Pier 4 Restaurant. Approximately 450 people attended the festive event, at which humorist Art Buchwald was guest speaker.

THIRD SURGICAL SERVICE  
HOLDS ANNUAL REUNION

Dean Sandson and John J. Byrne, M.D., a professor of surgery, recently attended the annual reunion at the Harvard Club of the Boston City Hospital Third Surgical Service. Many former residents who trained in the Service--a BUSM program at BCH--attended the yearly social event, at which \$1,000 is given to the School. For the past four years, the money has been donated in memory of George Miller, M.D., a former clinical professor of surgery and member of the BUSM faculty for 34 years, who died in 1975.

POLICEMEN RECEIVE AWARDS  
FOR CV RISK TRAINING

Aram Chobanian, M.D., director of the Cardiovascular Institute, and Boston Police Commissioner Joseph Jordan recently presented commendations to 20 Boston police officers for successful completion of a 20-week, 168-hour training program. Training included instruction in cardiovascular risks, the determination of each participant's individual risk, and the development of a program to reduce risk. Patrick O'Reilly, M.P.H., administrator of the Cardiovascular Institute, and Charles Tifft, M.D., an assistant professor of medicine, also attended the commendation ceremony at Boston City Hospital.



## EVALUATIONS POUR IN

More than 100 News & Notes evaluation forms from the May 1 issue have been returned to the Office of Informational Services. If you have not already done so, please return your evaluation right away so your views may be included in the results to be published in the next issue of News & Notes.

## BRIEFLY NOTED

Carl A. Olsson, M.D., chairman of the Department of Urology and chief of urology at UH, recently received the Gold Cystoscope Award of the American Urological Association and the American Cystoscope Manufacturers. The Gold Cystoscope is a national award presented each year for outstanding contributions to urology by a urologist not more than 10 years out of training....Joel J. Alpert, M.D., chairman of the Department of Pediatrics, began a two-month stint May 10 as Dozier Visiting Professor of Pediatrics at Ben Gurion University of the Negev in Beer Sheva, Israel. During his stay he will teach in the ambulatory setting, make patient rounds, and prepare a special "primary-care day" for students and faculty of the University and other physicians in Israel.... A \$28,000, one-year grant to support the study of the effect of eggs and egg products on immune function and serum lipids has been awarded by the American Egg Board to Joseph J. Vitale, M.D., associate dean for international health and a professor of pathology and of socio-medical sciences and community medicine (nutrition). Selwyn Broitman, Ph.D., a professor of microbiology, is co-investigator....George Lamb, M.D., formerly an associate professor of pediatrics at Harvard Medical School, has been appointed a professor of pediatrics at BUSM. A graduate of Upstate Medical Center in Syracuse, N.Y., Lamb has done work in ambulatory pediatrics, infectious diseases, and preventive medicine....Isaac Asimov, Ph.D., an associate professor of biochemistry, was guest of honor at a party given by faculty, staff and students of the Biochemistry Department May 15. Asimov is the author of more than 200 books on such topics as science fiction, mystery, biochemistry, history, physics, humor and satire....Mrs. Ruth Brody, secretary for 27 years to John J. Byrne, M.D., a professor of surgery, will retire June 21. Her plans include a trip to Florida....Dressed in Arabian garb, William F. McNary, Jr., Ph.D., associate dean for student affairs, conducted an anatomy lecture while two female students belly-danced during a highlight of Skit Night, the annual student theatrical high jinks, in Hiebert Lounge May 4. Many members of the first three classes and a few fourth-year students participated, and the audience turnout of faculty, staff and students was good....Jonathan L. Halperin, M.D., a fellow in cardiology, has been awarded one of four named Research Fellowships of the Massachusetts affiliate of the American Heart Association for the year 1979-80. Halperin was named the Howard B. Sprague Fellow of the Massachusetts Heart Association, to conduct experimental work on angiotensin inhibition in refractory heart failure....Mona Harrison, M.D., an assistant dean and director of the Office of Minority Affairs, spoke at an afternoon program at the Fuller Mental Health Center recently honoring the Fort Hill Mental Health Association. The Association was the first urban, voluntary, citizens' mental health chapter in the United States and is the only predominantly black chapter. Harrison's speech, "The Mind Is a Terrible Thing to Waste," focused on the proper use of time....John E. Madias, M.D., an assistant professor of medicine and director of the Coronary Care Unit at Boston City Hospital, recently presented a paper entitled "Attacks of Variant Angina Leading to Acute Myocardial Infarction" at two scientific meetings in Italy: the Florence International Meeting on Myocardial Infarction and the Cardiovascular Research Institutes of Milan and Pisa. The paper examines the relationship between variant angina, a form of chest pain that usually occurs during rest or sleep, and the occurrence of MI....Stirring up a bubbling controversy nationwide is a saucy scientific article in the April 5 New England Journal of Medicine by Donald M. Small, M.D., a professor of medicine and chief of the UH Biophysics Section, which reported on his eggs-periments showing that acetic acid



(vinegar) is not essential for the reconstitution of coagulated sauce béarnaise. Small and co-author Michael Bernstein, a chef, conducted their experiments in response to an article in Nature. The Small-Bernstein report has prompted a review in Science and an Associated Press story that appeared across the country....Arnold E. Reif, D.Sc., a research professor of pathology, will be a guest professor at the University of Connecticut at Storrs for one month this summer. Reif lectured at the University in April on "The Tuning of Lifestyles to the Prevention of Cancer"....Joel Miller, a research pharmacologist, is featured in an educational film about cocaine, in which he evaluates the drug and discusses its effects. Edward W. Pelikan, M.D., chairman of the Department of Pharmacology and Experimental Therapeutics, assisted in the production of the film, which was made by an Emerson College student....All BUSM '79 graduates passed Part II of the National Board exam, with higher mean scores than last year, according to Registrar Dorothy Keefer. Part I of the exam is given in June after the second year of study; Part II is given in April of the fourth year.

NEWS & NOTES is a regular monthly publication of the Office of Informational Services. If you have news of possible interest to the School of Medicine community, call editorial assistant Susan Saperstein, x5606 (247-5606), or write to her at the Office of Informational Services, P-600 (720 Harrison Ave., Boston, MA 02118).

## News & Notes

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